

Southern WV Safety Alert



A roof bolting machine operator was seriously injured when he was hit by a rib roll while bolting the first cut of the number 3 right crosscut. Three rows of bolts had been installed when a piece of the rib 6-8' long and 18-24" thick fell striking and pinning him at the operator's compartment. Section personnel removed the material in order to free the victim. This is the seventh injury to occur in District 4 in 2005 due to falling or sloughing rib material.

Preventive Practices:

- Thorough and frequent workplace examinations must be conducted to identify and correct hazards.
- Take down or adequately support any loose ribs or roof before working or traveling in the affected area.
- Miners should remain aware of changing roof and rib conditions and position themselves in a safe location to eliminate exposure to the hazard.



U.S. Department of Labor
Mine Safety and Health Administration

